



THE

# RecyCool PLANET

The Official RecyCool Club Publication



Winter Edition

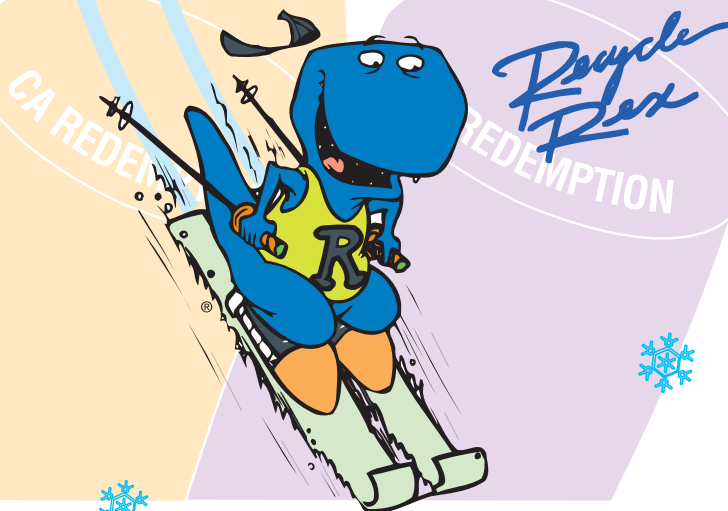
## Season's Greetings to all my RecyCool friends!

I love the cold weather and all the joy, celebration, and fun winter brings! I am fortunate to have friends like you in my RecyCool Club. You are important to my club because you are my recycling ambassadors. Your job is to make sure all aluminum, glass and plastic beverage containers are being recycled! So don't be shy, ask your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, friends, and neighbors to recycle! Thanks for doing your part to save our precious environment.

I am always looking for fun ideas, games, crafts and stories that I can include in my newsletter. So if you know of a cool craft to make out of a plastic bottle or aluminum can, or if you've created a fun recycling game, or have an awesome recycling story or school project to share, send your ideas to me so I can share it with the rest of the RecyCoolers! My address is: Recycle Rex, Department of Conservation, 801 K Street MS 17-01, Sacramento, CA 95814. Or, you can e-mail me at [recyclerex@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:recyclerex@conservation.ca.gov)

Thank you for reading my newsletter and for all the things that you do to help save our environment. The world would not be the same without you and the difference you make! Please share this newsletter with a friend, teacher, or with your class to let them know what you are doing to help save our earth! Then of course, recycle it!

Happy New Year and be safe!



EXTRA! EXTRA!

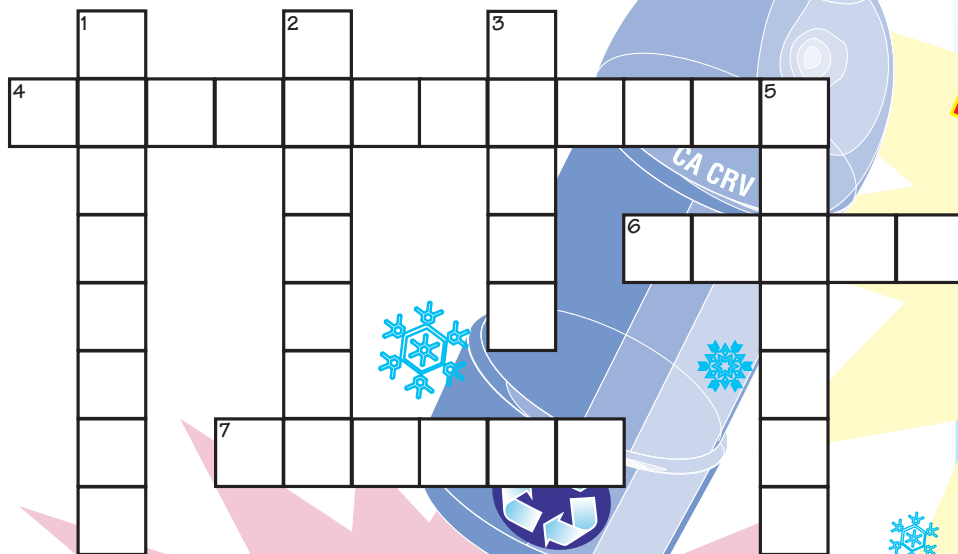
## Recycle Rex Rubs Elbows with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger



On a chilly day in November, I had the pleasure of meeting Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. The Governor visited several State Agencies during his lunch hour to celebrate his 1st year in office. The hard working employees from the Resources Agency, Smokey Bear and I received a speech of thanks from The Governor. I even had the privilege of shaking his hand! It was a fantastic day. Meeting our Governor was a real honor!



# CrossWord



## Across

4. Buying things made from recycled materials.
6. Takes over one million years to decompose in our landfills.
7. To make less garbage

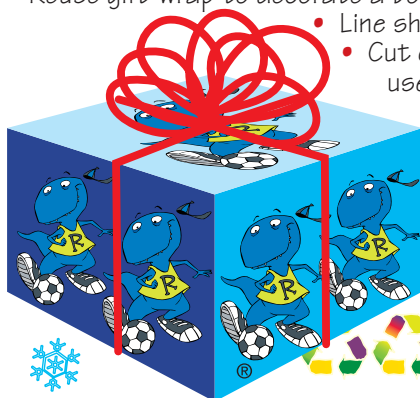
## Down

1. A soda can is made from this type of material.
2. Taking something old or used and turning it into something new.
3. To use something over and over again.
5. Can be recycled into clothing, rulers, playground structures and even carpet!

## Reuse your Holiday Gift Wrap, Cards and Boxes

There are many things you can do with your holiday gift-wrap, cards and boxes. Rather than throw them in the garbage and have them eventually end up in the landfill, here are several ideas:

- Cut out shapes or pictures from recycled greeting cards and use them as gift tags for another gift or as tree ornaments for next year.
- Donate greeting cards you've received to non-profit organizations or schools. They can use them for crafts.
- Reuse your gift-wrap as wall paper for a doll house.
- Reuse gift-wrap and ribbons to wrap other gifts.
- Reuse gift-wrap to decorate a box that you can use as a recycle bin.
  - Line shelves or drawers with gift-wrap.
  - Cut off the front of a used greeting card and use it as a postcard.
  - Reuse gift-wrap to make a collage or decoupage art project.
  - Reuse gift-wrap to make a book cover.
  - Reuse a bunch of small boxes as drawer organizers for small toys, hair ribbons, pencils, pens...



## LIGHTHOUSE





Turn an empty plastic water bottle into a fun lighthouse!  
You can use it to brighten up your room on a cold winter's day!

### WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- 1.5-liter clear water bottle
- Craft knife
- Red acrylic paint
- White acrylic paint
- Black acrylic paint
- Flashlight
- Newspaper
- Clear tape



Empty and clean your clear water bottle.



Ask an adult to use a craft knife to cut the bottle in half and then cut a notch in the bottom portion to allow access to the flashlight's on/off switch.

Use the red acrylic paint to coat the outside of the top section.

Leave about 2 1/2 inches of clear bottle and then paint the bottom portion with white acrylic paint.

Allow the paint to dry and then paint evenly spaced black vertical lines around the clear portion of the bottle and a black band at the bottom of the vertical lines.



In the bottom half of the bottle, surround the flashlight with newspaper to secure it in place.

Finally, fit the top portion to the bottom portion and secure with clear tape.

Turn the flashlight on and prepare to be amazed by your own personal lighthouse!



## Tommy's Recycling Day! ❄️

Tommy was writing a story about his awesome recycling experience and spilled juice all over his notebook and smeared some of the words! Using the following words, help Tommy place the correct words into the blanks to recreate his story.

- environment • CRV • beverage containers • money
- California Redemption Value • aluminum • PET • recycling • littered • glass
- Tommy • beverage • plastic



Tommy and his pals were taking a walk through their local park on a windy afternoon. As each of them looked around, they noticed that the ground was \_\_\_\_\_ with beverage containers. Plastic \_\_\_\_\_ bottles, aluminum soda cans and \_\_\_\_\_ bottles were on the grass and inside the sand box. Tommy and his friends knew they had to do something about this terrible mess. They were sad to see their park looking this way. Later that day, Tommy and his friends went back to the park with bags to collect the \_\_\_\_\_ containers. They picked up all the litter and collected all the aluminum cans, \_\_\_\_\_ and glass bottles. They took the beverage containers they found to their nearest \_\_\_\_\_ center. "Whoa!" the woman working at the recycling center exclaimed, "Where did you find all of these \_\_\_\_\_?"

Tommy replied, "We found them throughout the park! We wanted to help



the \_\_\_\_\_, so we picked up all the litter and beverage

containers. We noticed the letters CRV on the labels of these

containers." "Yeah," Tommy's friend piped in. "We've been trying to figure out what CRV stands for. I think it means 'Cool Recycling Video'."

"No no, it means 'Crazy Rocket Vehicle', another friend said.

The woman working at the recycling center chuckled. "You kids are great! CRV actually means \_\_\_\_\_"

\_\_\_\_\_." "Huh?" Tommy said,

looking stumped, "What does that mean?" The woman pointed to the top of an \_\_\_\_\_ can. "If you see the letters 'CRV', or the words 'CA Cash Refund' or 'California Redemption Value' on beverage containers, you will receive money for them when you turn them into your nearest recycling center." "Wow! It's like finding \_\_\_\_\_!" Tommy said. The woman replied, "When you purchase a beverage in these containers, you pay CRV for each of them. When you turn them in at a recycling center, you get the money back!" "Awesome!" \_\_\_\_\_ and his friends exclaimed. "How much money do we get?" The woman explained, "Each container that is less than 24 ounces is worth 4 cents, and each container 24 ounces or larger is worth 8 cents a piece." After the woman counted all of the containers, she gave Tommy and his friends a grand total of nearly \$10.00. They were very excited and decided to save all of their money and continue to collect \_\_\_\_\_ beverage containers until they had enough money to buy a recycling bin to put in their park.







State of California  
THE RESOURCES AGENCY  
Department of Conservation  
Division of Recycling  
801 K Street, MS 17-01  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## Tommy's Recycling Day!

### Answers:

1. littered
2. PET
3. glass
4. beverage
5. plastic
6. recycling
7. beverage containers
8. environment
9. California Redemption Value
10. aluminum
11. money
12. Tommy
13. CRV

## Congratulations to all the RecyCool Club Graduates!

If this is the fourth newsletter you've received from me, you've officially graduated from my RecyCool Club! You can continue to learn about recycling, reducing, reusing and closing the loop on my website: [www.conservation.ca.gov](http://www.conservation.ca.gov) look for the "Kids Only" section. Please remember to recycle where you live, learn and play!



# RECYCLE

### CrossWord

#### Answers:

1. Aluminum
2. Recycle
3. Reuse
4. Close the loop
5. Plastic
6. Glass
7. Reduce



### Statewide Recycling Challenge is Underway!

Congratulations to the classes that registered for my Statewide Recycling Challenge!

- Mr. Crissinger's Class and Mr. Gormaz's Class at Home Gardens Elementary in Corona
- J. Ketchel's Class at Nicolas Elementary in Sacramento
- Ms. Davies' Class, Mr. Nieve's Class and Ms. Dunbarr's Class at Cesar Chavez Elementary in Davis
- Mr. Borges' Boys Scout Troop in Oakdale
- Ms. Radkey's Class at Robert J. Fite in Sacramento
- Ms. Cornelison's Class at Westfield Village Elementary School in West Sacramento
- A class at Mount Helix Academy in La Mesa

I hope you've all had lots of success collecting and recycling your California Redemption Value Beverage Containers. I can't wait to see your results (don't forget, copies of your receipts and your results are due by January 15, 2005!). You are all winners just by pledging to recycle... you rock! Stay tuned... I'll announce the contest winners in my next newsletter!